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(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE99/02371 (22) International Filing Date: 15 December 1999 (15.12.99) (30) Priority Data: 9804361-5 16 December 1998 (16.12.98) SE (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SCA HYGIENE PRODUCTS AB [SE/SE]; S-405 03 Göteborg (SE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): <u>PORSÖ, Berith</u> [SE/SE]; Lidegårdsvägen 27, S-433 30 Partille (SE). <u>HAGRUD, Ulrika</u> [SE/SE]; Dr. Saléns gata 19, S-413 22 Göteborg (SE). <u>LAGERSTEDT, EIDRUP</u> , Marie-Louise [SE/SE]; Valebergsvägen 95, S-427 37 Billdal (SE). <u>HANSSON, Jan</u> [SE/SE]; Bräckavägen 90, S-437 42 Lindome (SE). (74) Agents: BERG, S., A. et al.; Albihns Patentbyrå Stockholm AB, P.O. Box 5581, S-114 85 Stockholm (SE).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> <i>In English translation (filed in Swedish).</i>

(54) Title: AN ABSORBENT STRUCTURE IN AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE, COMPRISING A PARTIALLY NEUTRALISED SUPERABSORBENT MATERIAL, AND AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE THAT COMPRISES THE ABSORBENT STRUCTURE

(57) Abstract

An absorbent structure in absorbent articles such as diapers, incontinence protectors, sanitary napkins, panty liners and like articles, wherein the absorbent structure comprises at least 40 percent by weight superabsorbent material, based on the total weight of the absorbent structure in a dry state in the region or regions in which the superabsorbent material is distributed, wherein the superabsorbent material is only partially neutralised. Absorbent articles that include the absorbent structure.

